

**Interagency Wildfire Management Team  
Meeting Notes  
May 5, 2004**

Doug Tucker (Los Alamos County Fire Department) is concerned that extensive slash piles that are adjacent to the Camp May Road may result in a large fire, if they are not removed soon. Doug also announced that the prescribed fire in the southern Jemez Mountains was a success. Approximately 2000 acres were treated by this prescribed fire.

Gene Darling (Emergency Management and Response, LANL) attended the Santa Fe Zone Board meeting last week. Redistricting and other measures to increase efficiency were discussed. Gene also noted that the fine fuels in the Los Alamos area are beginning to cure. Finally, Gene reported that a 60-acre crown fire had recently burned near Columbia Falls, Montana. This type of fire is unusual for this time of year in the northern Rocky Mountains.

Phil Taylor (Emergency Management, Los Alamos County) announced that most of the RAWs that had been established during the Cerro Grande Fire are being discontinued. However, a couple of the RAWs in upper canyon locations are being considered for continued data collection.

Bill Gall (National Nuclear Security Administration, Los Alamos Site Office) reported that NFPA 704 is being considered by LANL and DOE as a source of guidance for increasing building safety at LANL.

Lindsay Quam (Infrastructure Projects, LANL) announced that thinning in Rendija Canyon began last week.

Randy Balice (Ecology Group) is preparing for the annual fire hazard assessments in wildlands at LANL. This monitoring effort will begin on May 25.

Jim Whittington (Bandelier National Monument) will participate in the drafting of the New Mexico Governor's Forest Health and Watershed Plan.

George Duda (Forestry Division, State of New Mexico) distributed through an email announcement a media alert for the observance of National Wildfire Awareness Week (May 10-16). The week will be highlighted by a public meeting at the Rio Grande Nature Center, 2901 Candelaria, Albuquerque. This meeting will begin at 10 AM on Monday, May 10. For more information, contact Dan Ware at 505-476-3336.

Manny L'Esperance (Emergency Management and Response, LANL) announced through email notifications that the LANL fire danger is high. One-hour and ten-hour fuel moistures are 4 to 4.5 percent. The moisture contents of larger fuels range from 6 to 15 percent.

The next IWMT meeting will be at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, May 19, at TA-21, Building 210 in the RRES-ECO Conference Room (142). The IWMT meets every other week and these

meetings are open to the public. Contact Randy Balice ([balice@lanl.gov](mailto:balice@lanl.gov), 665-1270) for further information, or to get on the distribution list for these meeting notes.